

Fact-Checking Holvey's Claims



Noted liar¹ Paul Holvey has made a number of claims in his official response to the upcoming Recall election. Some of his claims *really* stretch the truth!

"standing up for working families"

Holvey's idea of "standing up" for working families includes slashing their pensions twice² (because the first was declared illegal by the Supreme Court!), eliminating hazard pay for front-line COVID workers³, and opposing organizing rights⁴.

"raise the minimum wage"

SB 1532 (2016) began in the Senate Workforce Committee, which had three meetings on the subject and adopted amendments. According to the Legislative Record, Rep. Holvey did not participate in those meetings. Rep. Holvey held a 90-minute hearing, at which no changes were made. The bill passed on a mostly party-line vote.⁸

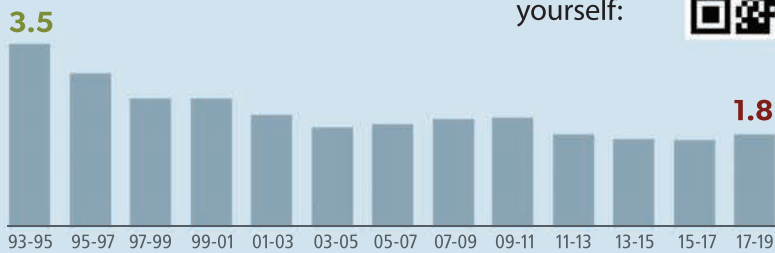
Un-fun Fact:



Thanks to SB 1532, the minimum wage in Eugene will always be \$1.25/hour less than the minimum wage in Portland.¹⁰ (Yes, Democrats had double Legislative majorities at the time.)

"workplace safety laws"

There have been some decent workplace safety laws put in place that have come across Holvey's desk. But even though Holvey is on the budget-writing Ways & Means Committee, he's done nothing to stem the disinvestment of enforcement staff at BOLI (see chart below)¹⁴ and Oregon-OSHA. All the safety regulations in the world aren't going to help workers if we don't have the staff to hold unsafe employers accountable. Holvey hasn't done that hard work.



BOLI Wage and Hour staff per 100,000 Oregon workers per biennium

"the environment"

Just last session, Holvey helped pass HB 3414 out of Committee⁵, which tried to undo much of Oregon's land use system and was labeled by environmental advocates as the "biggest rollback of urban environmental protections that Oregon has ever seen."⁶

"investments in our communities"

OPB recently reported⁷ Holvey's committee "quietly OK'd a \$90 million cost overrun" on renovating the State Capitol, without mentioning it to the public or even noting it in documentation. Co-Chair Rep. Holvey didn't respond to OPB's inquiries as to why.

From Paul Holvey's "Statement of Justification" filed with the Secretary of State:

VOTE NO ON THIS RECKLESS RECALL

As your State Representative, I'm proud of my record standing up for working families, the environment, protecting access to reproductive health care, and prioritizing investments in our community. I fought successfully to raise the minimum wage, establish paid sick time, improve workplace safety laws and ensure fair pay for farm workers.

One disgruntled union launched this recall after I asked questions about their proposed legislation. Because our attorneys said it would violate federal law, I decided to not support it. Their retribution is spending a fortune on a smear campaign to place this recall on the ballot. No other union or organization has joined them.

This recall would overturn a fair election result from less than a year ago. Recalls should be used when elected officials commit crimes or major ethical abuse, not when one special interest gets upset because their bill didn't pass.

Please Vote NO.

"establish paid sick time"

The bill that established paid sick time, SB 454, lists its Chief Sponsors as Rep. Rosenbaum, Sen. Steiner Hayward, Rep. Hoyle, and Rep. Vega Pederson. Holvey is listed as a minor sponsor along with 23 other lawmakers. It did not go through any committee that Holvey sat on.⁹

"fair pay for farmworkers"

Holvey is listed as a Chief Sponsor on HB 4002,¹¹ which indeed required overtime pay for farmworkers. However, after the bill was amended once, Holvey specifically requested and adopted amendments to the bill¹² (and later requested and passed HB 2058 in 2023) to pay affected employers up to \$10 million out of the General Fund¹³ to recoup their costs, essentially shifting costs to taxpayers and public services.

"I asked questions"

No he didn't. Watch the hearing for yourself:



"attorneys said it would violate federal law"

The legislative attorneys said no such thing, and had to remind Holvey of that fact:¹⁵

"... absent judicial guidance on this issue, we cannot predict with certainty how the NLRB or a court would ultimately decide."

Letter from Legislative Counsel to Rep. Holvey, 5/15/23

"Recalls should be used when..."

As a matter of fact, most recalls in Oregon originate because politicians fell out of step with their constituents' values, not because of a crime or ethics violation.¹⁶

Even so, the curious connection between La Mota's cannabis industry contributions and Holvey's killing of HB 3183 is recall-worthy under this standard! (More info on that at www.RecallPaulHolvey.com)

We List our sources! (Paul Holvey doesn't.)

1. "Our Legislative Counsel confirmed that the proposed legislation and amendment were in fact preempted by federal law and would not be legal." (paulholvey.com, June 29, 2023); directly contradicts Legislative Counsel guidance. 2. Oregon Legislative Information System, Senate Bill 822 (2013 Session) and Senate Bil 1049 (2019) / The Oregonian: "Oregon Supreme Court partially overturns Legislature's PERS reforms, eliminating a big chunk of savings" April 30, 2015. 3. LC 157 (2022 Session). 4. House Bill 3183 (2023 Session). 5. Oregon Legislative Information System, House Bill 3414 (2023 Session). 6. Audubon Society of Portland: "Take Action to Stop Huge Environmental Rollback of HB 3414" May 17, 2023. 7. Oregon Public Broadcasting: "Construction at the Oregon Capitol is almost \$100 million over budget. No one mentioned it to the public" Aug 8, 2023. 8. Oregon Legislative Information System, Senate Bill 1532 (2016 Session). 9. Oregon Legislative Information System, Senate Bill 454 (2015 Session). 10. Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries / Oregon Revised Statutes, section 653.025. 11. Oregon Legislative Information System, House Bill 4002 (2022 Session). 12. HB4002-A12 amendments (LC66). 13. Oregon Legislative Information System, House Bill 2058, Section 4 (2023 Session). 14. Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, Office of Economic Analysis, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; via Ore. Center for Public Policy (ocpp.org). 15. Letter from Legislative Counsel to Rep. Holvey, May 15, 2023; Available as part of the legislative record on House Bill 3183 (2023). 16. Ballotpedia, "Recall campaigns in Oregon".

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